

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Slomski, Douglas B. et al.	Group No.: 3721
Serial No.: 10/569,003	Atty. Docket No.: 469506-014
Filed: 12/19/2007	
For: Inline Processing and Irradiation System	Examiner: Durand, Paul R.

MAIL STOP Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

HONORABLE SIR:

Responsive to the official communication of July 7, 2009, Applicant submits the following response.

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those, which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this Amendment. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned for under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account 08-3460.

The Examiner has concluded that the application contains claims directed to two (2) distinct inventions. In the official communication of July 7, the Examiner has identified Group I as represented by claims 1-22, drawn to a packaging and irradiation apparatus, and Group II as represented by claims 23-33, drawn to a packaging and irradiation apparatus utilizing a process control system. In a telephone call to the Examiner, the applicant noted that the restriction requirement failed to address pending claims 34-38, and the Examiner subsequently responded

by telephone by indicating that claims 34-38 would be included in Group II. In accordance with 35 U.S.C. §121, the Examiner has required Applicant to select one invention subject to the restriction requirement. Applicant hereby provisionally elects Examiner designated Group I with traverse.